

# California State Journal of Medicine.

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NOVEMBER, 1903.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

To the Members of the Oregon State Medical Society, Greeting! The Publication Committee takes much pleasure in handing you herewith a copy of this number of the JOURNAL. On page 368, et seq., you will find a full report of the meeting of your State Society, which we trust will meet with your approval. You extended to our representative a cordial and kindly reception, and we hope that you will permit us to have the pleasure of returning this courtesy, in some measure, at the meeting of our State Society next April, at Paso Robles. The Trustees of our Society extend to you, one and all, a hearty invitation to come to the meeting of our Society and to consider yourselves as welcome as are our own members; to discuss with us the papers and matters presented, and to meet your fellow-physicians who have to live a little farther south on our Pacific Coast. We ask you to study the JOURNAL carefully. It is published by the State Society and it has no outside or inside, personal or commercial, biased control; it stands for the profession of medicine and for organization of that profession. In California we have found that it is regarded with favor and that to its account may be credited much of the great development of the spirit of organization and of the increase in the ranks of the organized. We think that through it you can materially lighten the work of organization in your State, if you desire to do so. We are will-

ing to aid you and to cooperate with you in this work, and if you desire to make the JOURNAL your journal, to have it your official mouthpiece, the means of communication between your members, the record of your component society proceedings, we are willing to help you. It might as well be the journal of two or of three State societies as of one alone; especially when the states are so near together and so similarly situated, relatively to the rest of the United States, as are we of the Pacific Coast. We are willing to share the JOURNAL with you; to make it as much your journal as it is ours; to devote its energies to the work of organization in Oregon as well as to that work in California; to send it to your members just as it is sent to our own. As the JOURNAL is not private property, was not founded and will not be operated for the financial profit of any individuals, nor of the Society, we have no embarrassment in extending to you this proffered aid. Sturdy union can do much; close organization and cordial cooperation can work wonders; and we feel that the time has come when but one sentiment should prevail in the hearts and minds of all practitioners of medicine—harmony, cooperation, organization.

Like many other things in life, the prosecution and conviction of illegal practitioners is not difficult if it is done right. The Board of Examiners has spent considerable time and money in finding out how to do it right and has systematized the work. All suits against illegal practitioners should be brought in the name of the Board; the Board is erected by law for the purpose of guarding the public against these birds of prey, and hence it is the duty of the Board to prosecute. In this we, as a Society, can be of the very greatest aid to the Board. If our members individually will send in word as to the existence and location of quacks, the Board will then assist the local society in bringing the suit, getting the evidence, etc., and will forward full details as to the proper procedure and the best manner of conducting the suit. It looks like a simple matter, and in reality it is; the main difficulty lies in the fact that most judges and justices of the peace are lamentably ignorant of the medical law and its interpretation. The same thing can be said of most attorneys who have not carefully studied out the question and had some experience with it. The Board has worked out these details and its attorneys have well outlined the whole course of procedure. This information is available at any time and will be at the service of any county society wishing to rid its vicinity of quacks. If your county society is loath to move, why do not you as an individual take the matter up? The Board will gladly help you, and the work should be done.

## ILLEGAL PRACTITIONERS